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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/553,562

10/18/2005

Siegfried Mantl

23388

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535 7590 03/18/2008

K.F. ROSS P.C.

5683 RIVERDALE AVENUE

SUITE 203 BOX 900

BRONX, NY 10471-0900

EXAMINER

PATEL, REEMA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2812

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/553,562	MANTL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Reema Patel	2812	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 December 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-48 and 50-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 50-60 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-16, 18-44 and 46-48 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 December 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to an amendment filed 12/11/07.

Drawings

1. The drawings were received on 12/11/07. These drawings are acceptable to the examiner.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 34 is objected to because of the following informalities: On line 4, change 'are' to 'is'. Appropriate correction is required.
3. Claims 4-49 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim in the previous office action (mailed 6/12/07). Since these claims have been amended to overcome this objection, the pending claims of the aforementioned group (4-49) have been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. Claims 3 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
6. Regarding claim 3, the phrase "the one layer" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear which layer ("first epitaxial relaxing layer" or "second epitaxial layer to be subjected to strain") is being referred to in the limitation that "the one layer is

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subjected to at least one thermal treatment of oxidation". For the purposes of examination, the examiner has interpreted this as "the first epitaxial relaxing layer".

7. Regarding claim 45, the limitation that the substrate has an 'MIO₂ layer' renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the MI stands for any element from the periodic table, a metal, or specifically Si (silicon). For the purposes of examination, the examiner has interpreted 'MiO₂ layer' as "SiO₂ layer".

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1-2, 4, 8-16, 18-44, 46-48 are allowed.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claim 1 contains allowable subject matter because of the limitation that a layer to be strained is formed on a layer to be relaxed, wherein these layers are formed in a single epitaxial deposit, and wherein relaxing the layer to be relaxed strains the layer to be strained. Claims 2, 4-16, 18-44, and 46-48 depend on claim 1.

10. Claims 3 and 45 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Double Patenting

11. Claims 1-3 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-96 of copending Application No. 10/554,074. The applicant has amended the claims to further distinguish the claims of the instant application from that of '074. Therefore, the

provisional nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting of these claims has been withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 and 18-48 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reema Patel whose telephone number is (571)270-1436. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:00-4:30 EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Lebentritt can be reached on 571-272-1873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RSP
3/13/08

/Michael S. Lebentritt/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2812